

Mubarak dissolves parliament and sets elections for April 6

CAIRO (Agencies) — An overwhelming majority of Egypt's voters gave President Hosni Mubarak a mandate to dissolve parliament and call new elections, the government announced Saturday.

Mr. Mubarak promptly declared parliamentary elections on April 6.

Interior Minister Zaki Badr, who oversaw Thursday's referendum on whether to disband the 458-seat People's Assembly, told a news conference that 88.9 per cent of valid votes cast said "yes."

A few hours after Mr. Badr spoke, Mr. Mubarak issued a decree dissolving the assembly, setting the new election date and scheduling runoff balloting, if needed, for April 13.

The decree said the new assembly is to hold its first meeting on April 22.

A major task of the new legislature will be to choose a president for a six-year term, starting next Oct. 14. Mr. Mubarak's term expires the previous day, but his re-election is considered foregone conclusion.

Mr. Mubarak's National Democratic Party (NDP) controlled more than 80 per cent of the outgoing assembly's seats and is expected to dominate the next chamber. NDP officials already have made clear the party intends to have parliament nominate Mr. Mubarak, 58, for a second term.

The constitution requires parliament to begin the presidential proceedings in mid-August and to put its nomination to the electorate in a yes-or-no referendum.

Mr. Mubarak called the referendum on whether parliament should be dissolved two years

before its term expires namely because of doubts cast on its constitutionality.

Mr. Badr said his decision was an indication of the "people's will and a response to their legitimate expectations for representation along the lines of political powers on the Egyptian scene."

Mr. Badr said 76.5 per cent of the electorate turned out for Thursday's balloting. Eligible voters totalled almost 14.4 million, and about 11 million of them voted, he said.

Out of 10,599,438 valid votes cast, he said, 9,423,384 endorsed dissolution of the assembly elected in May 1984 to a four-year term.

Mr. Mubarak suspended the assembly on Feb. 4 and sought the nation's approval of its termination because of a constitutional controversy over some provisions of the 1983 election law.

All five legal opposition parties complained that the law contained discriminatory and restrictive articles that breached the constitution. A suit was filed against the law in 1984 in the supreme constitutional court.

A panel of advisers to the court drew up a report agreeing that some provisions indeed violated the constitution.

Mr. Mubarak's ruling party, anticipating an adverse court ruling, pushed through parliament last December several amendments to meet some of the objections to the law.

Gromyko differs with Velayati over Gulf and Afghan conflicts

MOSCOW (Agencies) President Andrei Gromyko has criticised Iran's support for guerrillas fighting Soviet-backed Afghan forces and said Moscow differed with Tehran on the Gulf war, the official News Agency TASS said.

"Our evaluation of that war and your views on it do not coincide," TASS quoted Mr. Gromyko as telling Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, who is on an official visit to Moscow.

"Common sense suggests that the main attention should be paid not to the past but to the future — to ensuring that the war is discontinued," Mr. Gromyko said.

He said the Soviet Union wanted to see the war ended as soon as possible.

Iran has said it will pursue the war until the government of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is overthrown.

Mr. Gromyko told Mr.

The original measure banned independents from running for parliament and provided that only parties winning eight per cent or more of the national vote could take seats. It reserved 31 seats for women.

The amendments allowed one independent to run in each of the nation's 48 constituencies and scrapped the female seats.

Despite the amendments, criticised as insufficient by major opposition figures, Mr. Mubarak cut short the assembly's life and opted for a new chamber untainted by controversy in preparation for parliamentary action on the next presidential term.

Opposition leaders said Mr. Mubarak wanted an undisputed assembly elected before he seeks another term.

They complained that the present assembly was elected through unconstitutional electoral laws.

"We have always demanded the dissolution of this flawed assembly and a new constitution. I hope Mubarak now meets our second demand," Fouad Serageddin, leader of the largest opposition party, the New Wafd, told Reuters.

According to the constitution, parliament nominates one candidate for the presidency. The opposition wants a new system under which Egyptians can choose from several candidates.

Mr. Mubarak said he could not issue new laws to that effect in the absence of parliament, saying that only a new assembly could make such decisions.

In the last general elections in May 1984, the NDP won 391 seats and the Wafd the other 57 seats.

American congressman begins Iraq visit

BAGHDAD (AP) — U.S. Congressman Robert G. Torricelli began a visit to Iraq on Saturday, the first by an American representative since Washington and Baghdad restored diplomatic relations in November 1984.

Mr. Torricelli, a New Jersey Democrat, flew to Baghdad's Saddam International Airport late Friday, shortly after a long-range Iranian missile was reported to have slammed in an unnamed residential area of the Iraqi capital.

On Saturday, he took off in a car for a tour of Babylon, 120 kilometres south of the Iraqi capital, and other archaeological sites, a U.S. embassy official said.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Mr. Torricelli's schedule is "fluid" and depends on which Iraqi official will be available to meet him and when.

State Department officials and economic delegations have visited Iraq since 1984.

"But Mr. Torricelli, a member of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, is the first congressman to undertake such a trip since relations were restored after a 17-year rupture that followed the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Mr. Torricelli's visit comes as Iran and Iraq, at war since 1980, stepped up attacks on each other's main cities, including Baghdad and Tehran.

It also comes amid the controversy over a secret U.S. arms sale to Iran.

The United States professes neutrality in the conflict between Iran and Iraq and U.S. officials have said an Iranian victory would be disastrous.

But President Ronald Reagan said he agreed to the shipment of arms hoping to encourage moderate elements in that country.

Security Council appeals for truce in 'camps war'

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The Security Council has called for an immediate ceasefire around Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon to permit relief supplies to reach the besieged residents.

The council's appeal was in the form of a so-called presidential statement, which was worked out behind closed doors without a formal vote Friday night.

A consensus was reached by 15 council members after word reached here that two U.N. trucks carrying food to starving refugees in Beirut were fired on and prevented from reaching the besieged Bourj Al Barajneh camp. Reports said later some supplies reached the camp before dawn Saturday.

The statement, read to reporters by council President Peter Zuze of Zambia, said council members were "deeply alarmed by the tragic suffering undergone by the civilian population, particularly inside the Palestine refugee camps, (and) they call on the parties concerned to observe an immediate ceasefire to permit access to these camps for humanitarian purposes."

The U.N. observer mission of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said it would have preferred stronger council action but were satisfied with the humanitarian appeal.

A presidential statement is a minimal form of council action.

The fact that there was no open debate and draft resolution reflected division within the Arab bloc over the issue. Observer states does not permit the PLO to ask directly for an open council debate culminating in a more binding resolution.

Asked if he thought the statement would be effective, U.S. Ambassador Vernon A. Walters noted it's humanitarian thrust and said "it is difficult to say no to that."

The statement also urgently appealed to all concerned to facilitate the efforts of various governments and U.N. agencies,

as well as non-governmental bodies, to provide critically needed humanitarian assistance.

The members of the council repeated their call for a "speedy return to peace and a situation of normalcy and for the safeguarding of civilian lives in Lebanon."

In Washington, the State Department on Friday described the turmoil at Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon as "unacceptable to the civilised world" and urged all sides to cooperate in implementing an immediate ceasefire.

Voicing serious concern over the suffering of innocent civilians caught in the fighting in and around the camps in Beirut, Sidon and Tyre, department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley described as "particularly alarming" the plight of refugees in Bourj Al Barajneh.

"We call on all parties im-

mediately to implement a cease-

fire, and to permit international

humanitarian organisations to

gain access to the camps and to

other areas where their assistance is urgently needed," her state-

ment said.

"We call on all contending

parties in Lebanon to recognise

that progress toward security re-

quires that all inhabitants of

Lebanon work to strengthen the

rule of law," the statement said.

"Only the Lebanese government

and its security organs — the

army and the police — can legiti-

mately and effectively guarantee

the security of Lebanese and

Palestinian civilians."

Earlier this week, Secretary of State George Shultz said the people of Lebanon need to take more responsibility for conditions in their country, where factional fighting has brought a collapse of government authority.

Oakley on Friday refused to place the blame for the fighting in the camps. On Thursday she said it was up to the combatants to negotiate a truce and said the United States could play no direct role in bringing one about.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Weir calls for heating negotiations

EUGENE, Oregon (R) — The Rev. Benjamin Weir, a former Presbyterian missionary held hostage in Lebanon for 16 months, has called for negotiations to win the release of the remaining U.S. hostages in Lebanon. Mr. Weir told a meeting of Presbyterian ministers and church representatives here the U.S. government should move quickly to designate someone to make contact with the captors. The initial goal would be to find out the minimum conditions for the release of the eight remaining American hostages, he said Friday. On the use of military force, Mr. Weir said: "Our threatening of possible military intervention very much electrifies the whole atmosphere and is against any possible negotiations." Mr. Weir, 63, of San Francisco, is the moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the highest elective office in the 3,000,000-member denomination. Mr. Weir spent 32 years in Lebanon as a Presbyterian missionary. He disagreed with U.S. government's rigid stand against negotiations with the kidnappers, saying things were different in the Middle East.

Princess Anne begins visit to Qatar

DOHA (R) — Britains Princess Anne arrived in Doha on Saturday for a busy three-day visit which will include tours of oil installations and a camel ride in the Qatari desert. Princess Anne, president of the Save the Children Fund, arrived from Abu Dhabi and had an audience with Qatar's ruler Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani and his apparent and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamad Ibn Khalifa Al Thani. She was also to tour an oil refinery at Umm Said, 40 kilometres south of Doha, and inaugurate a British commercial week later Saturday. On Sunday Princess Anne, on her first visit to the former British protectorate, will visit the Dukhan oilfield on the peninsula's western coast. She will also tour greenhouses at Shahamiah 30 kilometres west of the capital before taking a two kilometre camel ride to Qatar's Oryx farm. The princess will visit Doha's naval base at Ras Abu Aboud on Monday and lay the foundation stone for the new English Doha college and Doha independent school. She will also visit a model poultry farm near the capital. She flies to Kuwait on Tuesday on the third leg of a Middle East tour which will also take her to Jordan.

Renton to visit Yemen, S. Arabia and Oman

LONDON (R) — British Junior Foreign Affairs Minister Tim Renton is to visit North Yemen, Saudi Arabia and Oman this month to discuss bilateral and regional issues. A Foreign Office statement said Mr. Renton would visit the Yemen Arab Republic (North Yemen) from Feb. 22 to 24, Saudi Arabia from Feb. 24 to 26, and Oman until March 2.

Gunmen kill four in Tehran square

TEHRAN (R) — Gunmen riding a motorcycle killed four passengers of a car in Tehran square two days ago, Islamic Republic newspaper reported Saturday. It said the gunmen belonged to the "Monaqib" — the hypocrites, the label used by the government to refer to the outlawed opposition Mujahideen-e-Khalq organisation whose leaders are based in Iraq — and managed to escape after the Thursday attack. The paper did not identify the victims. In a separate report, Islamic Republic quoted Serajeddin Mousavi, commander of Iran's revolutionary Komiteh police, as saying 335 "moafeqin spies" were arrested in the past 12 months.

Iranian woman gives birth to triplets

LONDON (AP) — An Iranian couple on Friday became the parents of Europe's first triplets born using the T-set fertilisation technique. Farshad Behroozinia, 28, and her husband Gholamreza, from Buscher, Iran, were delighted with the two boys and one girl, delivered by Cesarean section at the private Humana Hospital in London. "It is wonderful, the ideal family and just what we have always wanted," said Behroozinia, a 34-year-old customs officer. As she cuddled her new family, his wife said: "They are really ugly gypsies, but I am very happy. I want more babies." In the fertilisation technique, surgeons removed eggs from Mrs. Behroozinia and combined them with sperm from her husband, placing them in her fallopian tubes instead of in a glass dish in a laboratory as with previous "test-tube" fertilisation.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891223
Jordan Television 7731179
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Infrad 771231, 7731179
Ministry of Tourism 642731
Hotel complaints 666412
Civil Defence Deir Alla 5730176
Ambulance 193, 775111
Anman downtown fire brigade 197
Fire aid 630341
Blood bank 773033
Civil Defence rescue 6229011
Fire headquarters 6229011, 6377777
Police rescue 192, 621111, 6377777
Police headquarters 639141
Dr. Issa Abu Haider 637132
Dr. Issa Abu Rezeq 611784

Salem Pharmacy 636730
Neiroph Pharmacy 723672
Khalaf Pharmacy 776523
Fars pharmacy 661212
Sahab pharmacy 660536

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Issa Abu Haider 637132
Dr. Issa Abu Rezeq 611784

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 612813/62
Khalidi Maternity J. Ann 642421/6
Akib Maternity J. Ann 642421/6
Jabal Amman Maternity 642326
Malha, J. Ann 636140
Balatah 641714
Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF) 669151
University Hospital 643843/63
Al-Munshi Hospital 667227/79
The Islamic Tel. 623541
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Ittihad, Al-Muhajir 777101/6
Al-Basit, J. Ashraf 775111/6
Army, Marfa 691611/6
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155

TAXIS

Al Wabda taxi 641833
Rashad taxi 664898
Bawab taxi 611857
Abi taxi 621127
Hemay taxi 687411
Balasem taxi 646343
Bahrain taxi 643264
Masdhour taxi 636743

IRBID:

Dr. Issam Al Saleh 274722
Monaif Pharmacy 274722

ZARQA:

Dr. Farid Arafat 581923
Al Etilah Pharmacy 581923

MARKEET PRICES

Uppper/lower price in fils per kg.
Garlic (All kinds) 500/400
Grapefruit 130/100
Banana 100/60
Lemon 160/120
Marrow 570/400
Cucumber (dry) 180/140
Onion (green) 180/140
Potato 110/80
Cabbage 70/50
Carrot (black) 140/100
Carrot (yellow) 110/80
Pepper (hot) 370/300
Pepper (sweet) 380/300

NEWS IN BRIEF

New bridge offices begin operations

SOUTH SHUNEH (Petra) — As of Sunday, Feb. 15, travellers across the King Hussein Bridge to the West Bank and those coming to the East Bank will be processed at new offices set up by the Public Security Department, according to Lt.-Col. Khalid Shahin, director of the police stations at the bridge. Travellers previously checked in and out at old offices which had been in use since the 1967 occupation of the West Bank.

Crackdown on overtaking starts today

AMMAN (Petra) — The police will launch a campaign today to crackdown on motorists who try to overtake other vehicles in violation of rules and regulations. Bad overtaking and violations are a major cause of serious accidents, a police spokesman said, adding that the campaign is designed to reduce road accidents and ensure safety on the roads. Last year's accidents, the spokesman said, registered a noticeable drop over those of the previous year, largely due to greater public awareness and the two-week campaign starting Sunday is aimed at further reducing accidents.

IDB extends \$14m loan to Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has agreed to grant Jordan a \$14 million loan to contribute towards financing stage II of the Aqaba Thermal Power Station, according to Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Hussein Al Qasem. Mr. Qasem was speaking after his return from Jeddah where he took part in the meetings of the IDB executive board. He added that the board decided to implement a recommendation put forward by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to the 10th annual meeting of the IDB board of governors last March that the IDB increase credit facilities to Islamic countries facing financial problems.

Iraqi speaker sends message to Fayed

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayed on Saturday received a message from Speaker of the Iraqi Parliament Sadoun Hamadi. The message was submitted to Mr. Fayed during a meeting he held with Iraqi Ambassador in Amman Ghafel Jasem Hussein. During the meeting, Mr. Fayed and the Iraqi ambassador reviewed existing bilateral relations and the latest developments in Iran-Iraq war.

Dentists delegation returns

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Jordanian Dentists Association (JDA) returned to Amman on Saturday after taking part in the council meetings of the Arab Dentists Federation which concluded Thursday in Dubai. JDA President Walid Marqa said that during its five-day meetings the council decided to support the emergency fund for Arab dentists in the occupied Arab territories and to allocate two scholarships for post-graduate studies for West Bank dentists. He added that the council also decided to hold the 15th conference for Arab dentists here in April. The meeting also discussed the federation's activities and general budget for the last year, he added.

JLTC moves 4.97 million tonnes

AMMAN (Petra) — The fleet of lorries and other vehicles owned by the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company (JLTC) carried 4,962,391 tonnes since its establishment in 1980 up until the end of 1986 according to a company spokesman. He said that most of the shipments made by the fleet's during that period were between Aqaba and Baghdad. He said that each of the fleet's vehicles carried an average of 1,625 tonnes each month during 1986 alone.

Traditional Arab jewelry gets a new lease of life

By Najwa Fahmi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Traditional motifs of the Middle East region may soon be forgotten as these days they rarely used to decorate clothes and jewelry and only minor attempts have been made in the Arab World to ensure the continuation of this art form. One individual who has been involved in reviving indigenous symbols is Mrs. Azza Fahmi.

For the past 18 years, Mrs. Fahmi of Egypt has been using traditional symbols in fashioning jewelry made for the woman of today. She has travelled extensively in the Middle East region to study the old motifs and geometric patterns of the traditional designs in each country. "Without my knowing it, the various figures I saw were imprinted in my mind, and every time I wanted to design a piece of jewelry, I was able to draw from my memory," she said during her recent visit to Amman.

Combination of styles

Therefore, in many of her works one can see a combination of old designs, such as in a pair of earrings which are a replica of antique Iraqi earrings, except for two lovebirds in the middle, a character often found in traditional Egyptian patterns. Other pieces in her collection are identical copies of the pieces of jewelry whose design and motifs are on the verge of extinction. Often, however, there are slight modifications to make the jewelry more appropriate for the modern woman without ruining the original motif, said Mrs. Fahmi. For example, some of the pieces would be too heavy to wear if the same amount of silver in the authentic pieces was used in the jewelry Mrs. Fahmi was producing. Similarly, she has made the earring loop thinner in order not to tear the lobe.

Not only are the different symbols combined, but Mrs. Fahmi also uses three kinds of metals in her work. She buys broken pieces of gold, silver and brass and

melts them down. Then, using traditional techniques, Mrs. Fahmi makes her jewelry from one of the metals, or a combination of two or three metals. Some of her work is further embellished with semi-precious stones such as tourquoise, coral, pearls and black agate and a few silver dipped in gold bracelets are adorned with Arabic calligraphy.

Exhibitions

Over the years Mrs. Fahmi's work has proved to be a success as she has had exhibitions in Kuwait, Jordan, Abu Dhabi, the United States and over 25 displays in Cairo. However, success did not come overnight. Mrs.



Fahmi studied interior design at the faculty of art at Cairo University. After a couple of years of work in this field, she decided that she would rather design jewelry. "I saw that the majority of the fashionable jewelry came

solved when the British Council in Cairo gave her a grant for a six-month course in silversmithing in England.

Workshop
Upon her return she opened

Correction
In yesterday's issue, the Jordan Times carried a news item from the Jordan News Agency, Petra, in which it was reported that a joint Jordanian-Saudi Arabian investment company with a capital of \$500 million had been formed. The capital of the company is in fact \$50 million.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese Saturday addresses the Jordanian National People at the University of Jordan (Petra photo)

Municipality hosts symposium on urban organisation, town planning

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-day symposium on modern city organisation was opened at the Greater Amman Municipality on Saturday. Delegates from different government departments and municipalities will be discussing subjects related to organising cities, industrial and economic projects within the city boundaries, infrastructure projects, traffic problems, comprehensive security measures inside cities, urban development programmes, first aid and emergency centres and environmental planning.

Addressing the opening session was Greater Amman Acting Mayor Ismail Arnouti who re-

viewed the development of Amman from the time it was a village situated on the Amman stream and inhabited by a few hundred settlers at the turn of the century. He went on to discuss Amman's transformation into a major city inhabited by nearly a million people and provided with all means of convenience and services.

The rapid growth of the city of Amman resulted from a sharp rise in the number of people moving to the city and because of the development of economic, social and political life in Jordan. Mr. Arnouti said. This rapid development, he continued, re-

quires constant organisation and continual revision of plans for promoting services.

The concept behind the formation of the Greater Amman region, Mr. Arnouti added, was to re-organise Amman and its suburbs and to develop the surrounding regions. This is envisaged in a long-term plan now being finalised for the reorganisation of the capital which will be put into force from now until the year 2005, Mr. Arnouti pointed out.

The Greater Amman Municipality, he said, relies on the outcome and the recommendations of this symposium which would serve as guidelines for providing better public services to the capital's inhabitants.

Another speaker was Dr. Shafiq Al Bakri, chairman of the board of directors of the local Alpha Company which helped to organise the symposium in cooperation with a British firm. Dr. Bakri outlined the objectives of the meeting and the importance of exchanging expertise in the organisation of cities.

Another speaker was Lieutenant-General Issa Omari, assistant Public Security Department director, who submitted a working paper on security centres in Amman. He urged planners to take into consideration the subject of security centres in reorganising the capital and its suburbs. Lt.-Gen. Omari also called for the formation of a national committee to supervise the reorganisation of traffic in the Amman area and control transport within the city's boundaries.

Visit to geographic centre

Later, the participants in the symposium visited the Royal National Geographic Centre in Amman. They toured its sections and were briefed on its functions. Another visit was made to the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman.

Emergency food reaches camp

(Continued from page 1)

The Shatila camp was also "not far away" from reaching a stage where the camp's 5,000 Palestinian refugees will be forced to eat cats, dogs and rats, according to a Canadian doctor.

"The situation, although it hasn't become yet as catastrophic as in the other camp, will become so," Chris Giannou, 37, of Toronto, told reporters by radio from Sbatila.

Mr. Giannou described Friday's withdrawal of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) fighters from Sbatila as a "new chapter" in Lebanese-Palestinian relations.

However, he said Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat had sent fighters back to three villages near Maghdousheh, which they had earlier evacuated.

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Prince Hassan thanks national committee for its assistance to Sudan

Crown Prince chairs meeting to review relief, development programmes in Kass area

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Saturday voiced appreciation for the work done by the Jordanian National Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People and he praised the strong relations between the Sudanese and Jordanian peoples.

Prince Hassan, who was addressing a meeting of the national committee at the University of Jordan, paid special tribute to the Jordanian medical missions which were sent to Sudan to offer medical and health assistance to the victims of drought and famine. Prince Hassan also praised other medical missions from different countries which have been operating in Sudan offering their help to the Sudanese people.

He said that relations between Jordan and Sudan were continuing to grow and form a model for cooperation among other Arab countries.

The meeting was attended by doctors and specialists from the Health Ministry, the Royal Medical Services, the University of Science and Technology and other concerned specialists along with Lt.-Gen. Ahmad Abdul Aziz, director of Sudanese medical services, and Sudan's ambassador to Jordan.

The committee, chaired by Dr. Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, under secretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and the committee's rapporteur, also spoke at the meeting and reviewed the activities which, he said, were greatly appreciated by the Sudanese people and various world organisations.

Dr. Abbadi spoke about the committee's two phase plan with

Also speaking was Dr. Anwar Bilbeisi, the secretary general of the Jordan Medical Council. He outlined the activities of the Jordanian medical missions to Sudan and said that nine missions comprising 20 physicians and specialists and nurses were sent to Sudan.

The general health conditions of the people of Kass have improved as a result of the help these Jordanian medical teams have provided. Dr. Bilbeisi pointed out.

During the meeting, a general review was made of the different types of cases treated at Kass hospital by Jordanian teams.

The meeting was attended by doctors and specialists from the Health Ministry, the Royal Medical Services, the University of Science and Technology and other concerned specialists along with Lt.-Gen. Ahmad Abdul Aziz, director of Sudanese medical services, and Sudan's ambassador to Jordan.

The committee, chaired by Prince Hassan, was formed in September 1985 and groups representing Jordanian public and private sectors. The formation of the committee followed the news of the tragedy in Sudan and Prince Hassan's visit to the stricken regions. The national committee launched a fund-raising campaign in Jordan for the benefit of the famine victims in Sudan.

Government provides for revisions in W. Bank employees' salaries

AMMAN (Petra) — The government has left the door open for revisions of the salaries paid to West Bank employees at the start of every fiscal year with the purpose of providing financial help to them and improving their living conditions, Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Duddin announced on Saturday.

He said that his ministry, in cooperation with other concerned government departments, would gather information about employees appointed to their present posts after the 1967 occupation. He said this was being done in a bid to make recommendations to the government and the higher committee for occupied territories affairs in order to take proper decisions in support of those employees.

Mr. Duddin was addressing a delegation representing government employees in the occupied West Bank who were appointed after the 1967 war.

Any increase in salaries paid to West Bank employees would not be part of the government's

six-year economic and social development plan but forms part of the country's general budget, the minister pointed out.

The government's recent decision to increase the salaries of employees affiliated to the Ministry of Education came in view of the fact that they form the largest sector among the government employees in the occupied territory, Mr. Duddin continued. The government will not spare any effort to extend similar support to the remaining government employees, the minister added.

He stressed that the government, under the guidance of His Majesty King Hussein, was very concerned about the conditions of government employees as it appreciates their efforts and the services they provide to the local inhabitants.

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Through economic coordination.....

THE Arab Economic and Social Council, which has just concluded its 42nd session in Riyadh, could well turn out to be the most promising inter-Arab forum for promoting cooperation and pushing forward the frontiers of economic and social coordination among Arab countries.

We are all familiar with the pivotal role that the EC has played in enhancing not only economic unity between western European countries but also in political matters. It is common knowledge that economic cohesion is a foundation on which political unity can be forged. With this in mind we wholeheartedly support the efforts and calls to accelerate economic cooperation and coordination between Arab countries with a view to establishing a truly institutionalised and fully functional Arab common market. The recommendation opted at the 42nd session of the Arab Economic and Social Council that Arab countries which have not yet ratified the pan-Arab agreement on facilitating and developing commercial exchange and the united Arab agreement on investment should do so as soon as possible is a step in the right direction. There were other action-oriented recommendations taken by the council, notably that which called on Arab countries to faithfully observe existing inter-Arab economic agreements and to scrap existing restrictions on the flow of Arab manufactured goods to other Arab countries. The proposal to request the Arab Monetary Fund to facilitate the settlement of payments among Arab countries complements the other vital proposals adopted by the council, including one to benefit from long-term financing programmes recently drawn up by the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank.

All these ideas and recommendations, if implemented, would promote inter-Arab economic and social cooperation and would provide a sound foundation for political coordination among Arab countries. Of course, even economic recommendations and decisions require a political will to make them work and render them functional.

The Arab World, despite various efforts to achieve political understanding and harmony, is still in deep-rooted disarray and disunity. We have not knocked hard enough on the door of the economic front, even though it could offer the Arab World a real opportunity to achieve direct, institutionalised political unity and coordination which other approaches have failed to accomplish. If and when inter-Arab economic relations are put on the right course, they could very well provide the necessary momentum and environment for real political understanding and coordination between Arab countries.

But it is not enough just to open the door of economic and social cooperation among Arab countries within the context of the Arab Economic and Social Council. Rather the subject matters and the objectives of this inter-Arab forum must be pursued with vigour and determination lest inter-Arab inertia set in again to result in only words, resolutions and recommendations. Jordan along with the rest of the Arab World should accord this Arab council the priority it rightfully deserves and we all should play the pivotal role necessary to make it the action-oriented inter-Arab forum it should be.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Is Shultz changing heart?

A few days ago American Secretary of State George Shultz sent a message to Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir containing Washington's views about the proposed international conference which could be a means for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of direct negotiations. So far no more has been disclosed about the American views vis-a-vis such a conference, and we hope that these views would be different from Washington's earlier ideas of direct Arab-Israeli talks. It is useful to remind the United States and Israel that Arab countries' call for such a conference was quite clear, and demands the participation of all permanent members of the United Nations Security Council in addition to all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict including the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The Arabs want such a conference to implement Security Council resolutions on the Middle East issue especially the one that prohibits the occupation of other countries' territory by force. In this light we can say that Washington should realise that such a conference should not exclude any of the concerned parties and that the main aim of the meeting should be the implementation of Security Council resolutions. Unless the Americans agree to this there can be no successful conference and their views about an international conference would be unacceptable.

Al Dustour: Shamir goes shopping to U.S.

IN preparation for a visit by Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to the United States, the Israeli government has drawn up a list of demands and types of military weapons which Shamir will present to the U.S. administration. Israel has been preparing the list without a single thought about any idea of peace and the proposed international conference. Even a suggestion on this conference made to Israel by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has been completely ignored. It seems that Shamir realises that the U.S. administration can and will do nothing to exert pressure on Israel because of the powerful Zionist lobby in Washington, and for this reason he continues to ignore any ideas by the White House or the U.S. administration unless they serve the interests of the Jewish state and the Zionist movement. Shamir is sure that the list of weapons he is seeking for Israel will be given to him because of the Zionist lobby's influence. Shamir is so confident that the U.S. administration will respond favourably to all his demands, and we would not be surprised if George Shultz issued an apology to Shamir about his ideas on an international conference.

Sawt Al Shaab: No justification

NOW that the Amal militia has retrieved Maghdousheh and re-stationed its forces in it, there can be no more justification for a continued siege of refugee camps and shelling of their residents. The continued shelling is bound to cause more tragedies and more sufferings of the Palestinians and the Lebanese alike and is a major obstacle to the achievement of peace in Lebanon. The continued war and the civil strife that involves warring factions in Lebanon can by no means achieve any success for any one of them over the other, and therefore the most proper solution is a national reconciliation and a comprehensive and lasting peaceful settlement. But first the shelling of the refugee camps should stop because the shelling and the siege have brought the country to a new dangerous situation and caused the death of innocent people.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Reflections on measures to save expenditures

THE fiscal measures announced by the government last week to back the treasury and to narrow the gap between revenues and public expenditure and to reduce the deficit were long overdue.

The first and certainly the most important measure adopted was to tame current expenditure and lay down the ways and means to achieve this objective. The importance of this step has become obvious after the continued growth of these expenses each year, despite the absence of inflation and lack of economic growth that may have justified the expansion in public consumption in the past. Curbing expenditure is a widely used expression in the Budget Law and also in the 1987 draft budget delivered to Parliament by the minister of finance. The essential point is not to call for lower expenses but rather to pinpoint the targets for the savings axe. The cabinet decision did not describe the means which would be employed to accomplish this task. Maybe the details are not yet finalised and are still under consideration.

It is evident however, that curbing public expenditure is not an easy task that can be accomplished by a pen stroke. There has to be a price to be paid and victims to suffer, but the process has to start any way, and there is no room for further delays.

In this respect, it should not be sufficient to limit the travel of official delegations abroad, nor is it enough to cut down on the attendance of conventions or seminars held abroad. It is also not enough to negotiate with suppliers here in Amman instead of going right into their offices.

For besides these areas of savings, the government may have to kill some redundant public institutions which have failed their mission and ended without roles to play in our life.

Cutting expenses should not be limited to strict government departments, but should extend to reach all public sector corporations, authorities, and other independent units, which work overtime to invent means to borrow, spend, import equipment, and expand.

In order to enhance revenues however, the government decision was more specific. It increased duties on cigarettes and alcoholic beverages. This source of revenues has always been used whenever the government needed more revenue. It is feared that both cigarettes and alcohol are already overtaxed beyond the optimum level. On the other hand it is no secret that a great quantity of cigarettes and alcohol consumed in Jordan are not taxed at all. The present increase in duties on both commodities may reduce the

proceeds without reducing the consumption and is posed to make smuggling more profitable.

There is no doubt that increasing the duty on ready-made clothes was a sound decision. It will not only yield more revenue from well-to-do consumers, but it will also encourage local manufacturing and expand the business of tailoring which in turn would create more jobs and save foreign exchange. Perhaps the government should also increase duty on ready made furniture to achieve the same positive results, especially when the know-how and the production capacity in this field are already there.

However, the increase of customs on white cement and iron bars may act as a negative incentive to investment. These building materials are not used for consumption. Making them more expensive will reflect on the cost of investments. It is in fact another way to investors.

Finally, the government decision to cure the budget deficit must be hailed as a positive sign, indicating that the government is now fully aware of the fiscal problem, and is determined to find effective solutions.

The PLO's return to the Lebanese equation

By Rashid Hassar

The following article is reprinted from the London-based *Middle East International*. The writer is a Lebanese journalist and writer residing in London.

THE renewed assertiveness of the Palestinian fighters in Lebanon, as demonstrated in the latest round of the "camps war," has considerable psychological and political implications for Lebanon. While most observers have stressed the regional dimension of the struggle for the camps, seeing it as a new phase in the long-running PLO-Syrian conflict, it is in fact at the inter-Lebanese rather than at the regional level that the Palestinian revival may have most impact.

The Palestinians' recent successes will of course have some regional repercussions. They boost the standing of the PLO and its chairman Yasser Arafat, and revive the chances of unity among Palestinian organisations, while presenting Syria with a head-on challenge to its authority in Lebanon. But such successes, vital though they may be for Palestinian morale, are unlikely to determine the regional balance of power or the course of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Palestinians may succeed in holding on to their gains, but they realise all too clearly that their backs are still against the wall, and that a return to even a degree of the freedom of movement they enjoyed pre-1982 is simply unthinkable at present.

The Israeli invasion of 1982, and the subsequent Syrian-Palestinian confrontations in the Beqaa valley and north Lebanon, almost completely wiped out the once all-pervasive Palestinian presence, whose remnants were squeezed into the confines of refugee camps. The Arafat fighters who have sneaked back to the camps in the south and around Beirut have found that the new Lebanon is far less hospitable. The disintegration of Lebanon into impenetrable sectarian mini-states, Syria's hegemony over the Beqaa and the north, Israel's control of a large buffer zone in the south, the unstoppable rise of an aggressive and firmly anti-Palestinian Shi'ite militia, and the general lack of sympathy among the Maronites. Confined to the Syrian-controlled Beqaa and the

economically-marginal south, the Shi'ites could see no real advantage in jumping on the cantonage bandwagon.

But Shi'ite ambitions for national prominence have been repeatedly frustrated by Lebanon's political stalemate and the apparently irreversible political disintegration of the country. Impatient to translate their newly found power and identity into lasting strategic gains, one of their major aims has become the total domination of the south, with the possible displacement of the remaining Christians towards the border zone and of the Palestinians south of Sidon northwards, resulting in their effective control of and gradual expansion into Sidon and Beirut. The conquest of Beirut represents not only the conquest of a symbol of wealth from which the Shi'ites have been excluded for decades, but also compensates for the political marginality of the Beqaa and the south, thus giving the Shi'ites powerful leverage on the national level. Inevitably, achieving this ambition involves a showdown with the increasingly rancorous Sunni opposition and the neutralisation of the (also predominantly Sunni) Palestinians, who have recently re-emerged as the only factor able to help the Sunnis contain the rise of Shi'ite power.

A major reason for the Sunnis' failure to create a credible military machine to match those of other factions. Despite their numbers (they are the second largest community in the country) and their concentration in the cities, the Sunnis have been chronically handicapped by their lack of martial traditions and of *assabiya* (sectarian solidarity) and by the erosion of their demographic dominance of the cities through large-scale, mainly Shi'ite, immigration from rural areas from the 1950s on. Consequently, the Sunnis were forced from the start of the civil war to rely directly or indirectly on Palestinian organisations. Most of the Sunni-dominated militias were directly supported with arms, money, recruitment, training, and command by Fatah and other Palestinian groups.

The Shi'ites fear that the steady build-up of Palestinian power within the camps will sooner or

later gather enough momentum to expand outside them. In Sidon, the regional capital of the south, this has already happened, with the Palestinians now effectively in control of the whole city as well as Ain Al Hilweh camp. With the capture of Maghdousheh, the Palestinians even seriously threaten Shi'ite communications between the south and Beirut. In Beirut, the Shi'ites' main concern is that the

The re-emergence of Palestinian power has lent weight to the theory that a Palestinian-Sunni-Druze axis is developing.

consolidation of Palestinian positions in the three camps of Bourj Al Barajneh, Sabra and Chatila will enable them eventually to "recapture" the capital or at least to pose a serious challenge to Amal's domination, as well as encouraging Sunni resistance.

The re-emergence of Palestinian power has lent weight to the theory that a Palestinian-Sunni-Druze axis is developing. At this stage, however, such a rapprochement still low-key, with the Sunnis and Druze anxious not to antagonise Syria. The Sunnis have become openly resentful of what they see as the provocative and intimidating domination of Amal and, may have concluded that a resurgence of the Palestinians is the lesser of two evils. They may thus have been encouraging this comeback, with the approval of some Sunni Arab states. The Shi'ite Amal militia and its Syrian sponsors have long been apprehensive about such a development, and when the Sunnis and Druze axis was liquidated by Amal with the support of Junblatt fighters (a coup which enraged the spectrum of Sunnis leaders), the main reason given to justify this act against an ally was that the Murabitoun had been helping Palestinians to reinforce the capital.

The recent escalation in the "camps war" has given the Druze the tricky task of trying to reconcile heavy Syrian pressure to join the war against the camps with

their "special relationship" with the Palestinians, and with their long-term political interests. Under the leadership of Walid Junblatt, they have so far succeeded in sticking to a relatively "neutral" course, while turning a blind eye to the Palestinian use of their territory to bombard Shi'ite positions. Under their late leader Kamal Junblatt, the Druze developed a strong relationship with the Palestinians. This relationship was maintained by his son and successor Walid, and was recently strengthened when the Druze defied Syrian pressure to join the attacks on the camps, and also took upon themselves to shelter and protect large numbers of Palestinians who had fled the camps and were seeking refuge from reprisals by Amal.

In addition, it is known that the hundreds of PLO fighters who were dispatched by sea to reinforce Palestinian positions around Sidon landed on the Druze-controlled Chouf coastline. A major reason for the stance of the Druze is the effective support they received from the Palestinians in their decisive war with the Maronites two years ago. In addition, hundreds of Palestinian fighters are helping to man the front-line at Suq Al Gharb and other hard pressed Christian positions in the mountains. In the face of mounting Syrian pressure, Junblatt has repeatedly cited this as the main argument against Druze participation in the attacks on the camps. But with Amal fighters finding it increasingly difficult to score a decisive victory, Syrian patience with Junblatt may be wearing thin. During a recent visit to Damascus the Druze leader was received by Syrian Chief of Staff General Hikmat Shehabi with the words "Hello, our strategic enemy," an ironic reference to Junblatt's repeated assertion that "Syria is our strategic ally." In the face of Syrian annoyance, Junblatt is giving Amal (another "strategic ally") noisy political support and trying to appease the Syrians with anti-Arafat rhetoric.

In Beirut, the Druze have already taken some quiet steps towards a rapprochement with the Sunnis. Junblatt (himself a Sunni on his mother's side) has publicly apologised for his part in

the traditional balance which has ensured the survival of all Lebanese minorities. The Sunnis and Maronites are also highly sensitive to any party threatening "the equilibrium." The golden rule of Lebanese politics has been, and remains, that no community should be able to monopolise power or to dominate another. Historically the astute and efficient Maronites may have succeeded in asserting their hegemony over the others, but recent history has shown this to be no more than a temporary success. Ironically, sensing the same kind of danger that used to be felt by their rivals, the Maronites have themselves joined the effort to check the Shi'ite rise, to which end they have even provided political and material support for their long-term enemies, the Palestinians. In contrast, when the Shi'ite militia clashed with their Druze enemy, the Maronites were quick to lend support to the Shi'ites, although not enough to help them score a decisive victory.

For the outsider, the constant manoeuvring which characterises the Lebanese political game can be hard to fathom. Regional powers caught up in the Lebanese tangle, notably Syria and Israel, have found it an exhausting business trying to impose a lasting and manageable order. With the Palestinian resurgence now an important new factor in the "Lebanese equation," a "manageable order" seems further away than ever.

The writer is the president of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. His article is reprinted from *The Orange County Register*.

Terrorism hits U.S. but very few seem to care

By Abdeen Jabara

THE word "terrorism" conjures up images of bloody incidents in foreign places. It often connotes persons of Arab descent. When terrorism strikes at home, claiming the life of an Arab-American, few seem to be aware, and few in high positions seem to care.

Arab-Americans care. In November, Arab-Americans in Detroit, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Houston and Washington D.C., held memorial services for Alex Odeh, a Palestinian-American who was killed in October 1985.

Alex Odeh, who served as West Coast regional director of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), died in a terrorist incident on American soil. He was killed Oct. 1, 1985, as he came to work at ADC's Santa Ana office. A bomb tripped by his office door

shredded the lower half of his body and wounded seven passers-by in the street below. Now, one year later, the FBI, which initiated an investigation into the terrorist incident, has failed to solve the case. And one year later, Arab-Americans are still in high dudgeon over who killed Alex.

The lack of progress in the FBI's probe has been felt so acutely by the Arab-American community that it has taken the step of posting a \$100,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for Alex's death. The ADC has offered the reward on the first anniversary of the terrorist incident.

The Reagan administration's and the media's indifference toward terrorism directed against

Americans of Arab descent was already clear a year ago. Three days before Alex's death, another American, Leon Klinghoffer, was killed in a terrorist incident aboard the hijacked cruise ship Achille Lauro. President Reagan dispatched American Navy jets to force down an Egyptian airliner and apprehended Klinghoffer's murderers. Mrs. Klinghoffer herself received a personal visit from President Reagan shortly thereafter.

The only presidential attention received by Mrs. Odeh, the widow of the other victim of terrorism, was a formal letter from Reagan thanking Alex for past campaign contributions and asking for more. Alex's murder took place under the cover of our government's and media's preoccupation with the Achille Lauro hijacking and has since become nothing more than a footnote to

attention under the Freedom of Information Act. That disclosure prompted a quick denial by FBI Executive Assistant Director Oliver Revell, who on July 16 told the House Subcommittee on Criminal Justice that the Secret Service memo was "probably" due to a "misunderstanding."

ADC was and is disposed to believe Revell, but other disturbing reports are grounds for grave concern. Revell confirmed there was a "foreign connection" in the case and that the country in question was Israel. Revell also said the FBI was seeking the help of the Israeli government. This is the same government which recently pardoned Avraham Shilon, the head of Shin Bet, Israel's own FBI, after he directed a cover-up of the murders of two

Palestinian prisoners taken into custody in April 1984.

Alex Odeh, poet, teacher and defender of human rights, was honoured twice this year with posthumous awards from the Orange County Human Relations Commission and the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission. He has not been forgotten by his family, friends or community. But that is not enough.

Alex felt passionately that one American can be victimised for his beliefs, so can all. As long as his murderer goes unpunished, we are all the victims of terrorism.

The writer is the president of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. His article is reprinted from *The Orange County Register*.

Politically muzzled, Indonesian students find religion

By Bill Tarrant
Rewer

BANDUNG, Indonesia — At noon on Fridays, the Institute of Technology at Bandung (ITB) is nearly deserted as students gather for the main extra-curricular activity on campus these days — praying and religious discussion.

The Muslim majority responds to a call to prayer at the bustling university mosque, while the tiny Christian community holds an evangelical service in a school building featuring folk guitar music, Bible reading and con-

versation.

ITB, whose most famous alumnus was Sukarno, Indonesia's first president, was once a hotbed of political activism. Now it seems like a mellow religious community with a social conscience.

The radical student movement in Indonesia ended abruptly after campus protests on the eve of the 1978 presidential election. Troops restored order, killing or wounding dozens of students and occupying the ITB for three months.

Zionists and Evangelists on the road to Armageddon

By Dr. A. Clare Brandenburg

Prophecy and Politics: Militant Evangelists on the Road to Nuclear War by Grace Halsell (Lawrence Hill & Company, Westport, Connecticut) 1986.

In this book Grace Halsell documents the incongruous alliance between the Israeli right wing and American evangelical Christians. As in previous books, Ms. Halsell combines intensive research with an unusual and sometimes arduous "participatory observation." In *Journal to Jerusalem* she explored the rigors of life under military occupation by sharing with Palestinian students at Birzeit University an attack on their campus by the Israeli occupation forces and by spending time in refugee camps and Israeli settlements. In *Soul Sister* she recounted the experience of being treated like a black woman in Harlem and in Mississippi, having darkened her skin by the same dangerous chemical as that used by the late author of *Black Like Me*.

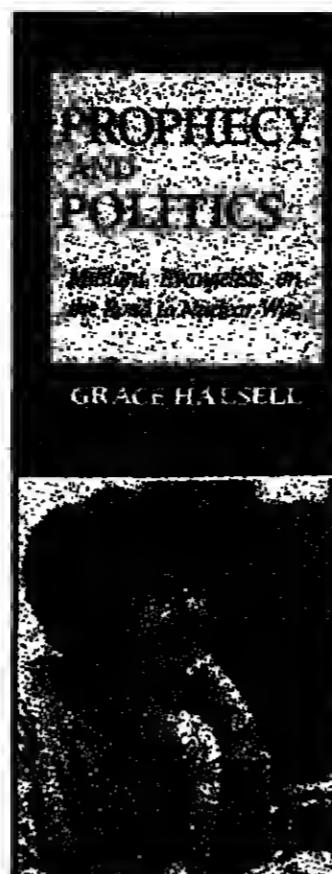
To gather first-hand information for the present book, Grace Halsell attended rallies of pro-Israeli Christian fundamentalists in the U.S. and took part in two Jerry Falwell tours of the Zionist state in 1983 and 1985, interviewing pilgrims from a wide variety of backgrounds in order to explore attitudes toward Zionism from an impressively kaleidoscopic vantage-point. The result is a highly readable and informative analysis of a growing constituency. The so-called "muscular" Christians who have joined Israeli Zionists in a new variant of idolatry in which biblical "Sion" has degenerated from a spiritual symbol into a piece of real estate for which one may legitimately rape, murder, and pillage.

BOOK REVIEW

According to their apocalyptic convictions, God blesses all who love Israel, there is no limit to the financial and military support which Israel deserves, and Israel provides the location for Armageddon — the final and inevitable nuclear holocaust which is required to precipitate the longed-for return of Jesus.

Among the great values of this book is the wealth of detail concerning the identities and affiliations of sects and individuals in

the fundamentalist camp, and their circles of influence in U.S. and Israeli officialdom. In this "who's who" of doomsday, we learn what TV evangelist President Reagan calls on to open a Republican convention or to conduct a prayer breakfast. What wealthy American has purchased a half-million dollar mansion across the street from the Israeli embassy in Washington, D.C., to create a chapel (bullet-proof and sound-proof) for 24-hour daily services by U.S. congressmen and other high officials for the express intention of begging the Almighty to hasten the total dispossession of Palestinians of their remaining land? Her belief is that all the land promised to the Jews in Genesis must be in Jewish possession before Jesus Christ can return in glory. In this mansion millions of dollars are collected and funnelled to Gush Emunim settlers for illegal expropriation of land in the occupied Arab territories. We learn what TV preachers now flies his own private plane, a gift from Israel, and which evangelist was responsible for convincing anti-Israeli Jesse



Grace Halsell

ministry: "Blessed are the peacemakers, etc." The stop was only to use toilet facilities.

Ms. Halsell provides a clear review of some of the primary historical forces which have led to this astonishing situation, and, though the book is not meant to appeal primarily to scholars and does not include a bibliography, one could construct from these pages a good list of introductory sources for further study. In addition to important books by Noam Chomsky and Paul Findley, the book discusses *The Fate of the Jews* by a religious American

Jew, Roberta Strauss Feuerlicht, in which modern Israel is castigated for the same idolatry as its Old Testament forerunners — i.e. placing faith in militant kings rather than in the ethical tradition of the Hebrew prophets. The author also draws on the recent study of *Non-Jewish Zionism* by Regina Sharif of Kuwait University which traces with great erudition four centuries of Christian and secular Zionism in the West (often motivated by anti-Semitism) which culminated in the Balfour declaration and the founding of a racist and colonialist Zionist state.

Israeli plans to destroy the Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa Mosque and to rebuild Solomon's Temple on the Haram Al Sharif

have already been published by Israel Shahak, a professor at Hebrew University, and in an article by Ms. Halsell (*Shrine Under Siege*, published by The Link, Amherst, Inc., Vol. 17, No. 3, August/September 1984). In the present book, the author recounts conversations with Israeli guides and evangelical pilgrims who assert that his plan is required by scriptural prophecy though they admit that the goal of restoring animal sacrifice in such a temple is "atavistic." Ms. Halsell's immediate concern with this plan is the probable effect it would have in precipitating World War III, a consequence accepted with amazing equanimity by her respondents. The two great mosques are among the most ancient and the most venerated shrines for Muslims worldwide, and constitute an irreplaceable architectural and cultural treasure for all human beings.

Yet Zionists of this fanatical persuasion speak casually of their destruction and the ensuing cataclysm as part of God's plan. Evangelical Christians in the U.S.

have contributed millions of dollars toward this plan, often in response to spurious claims that Christians are prevented by Muslim caretakers from worshipping at their Holy Land shrines.

Halsell points out that no evidence has been found to indicate that Solomon's Temple actually stood on the site of the great mosques, and even quotes Israeli scholars who believe they can prove it must have been located elsewhere. Nevertheless the planting and excavations under the Haram Al Sharif continue apace.

At this time, when Washington, D.C. is digesting new revelations about U.S. aid to the contras and arms deals with Iran at a time when both were forbidden explicitly by U.S. foreign policy and congressional decree, it is sobering to realize the enormous forces which are propelling that country and the world toward nuclear war. Millions of Christians listen to dozens of TV evangelists who preach the need for more nuclear weapons and who disregard the mountainous national debt. In the light of the inevitability of apocalyptic nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union, these people seem to believe that there is no point in worrying about a balanced budget. No one, in their view, will be around to demand its repayment, since Armageddon is almost upon us.

Grace Halsell's new book is frightening but essential reading for everyone concerned about the survival of humankind.

The writer is a Fulbright Professor at the Department of English at Al-Ba'ath University in Homs, Syria. She contributed this review to the *Jordan Times*.

Murdoch clears last hurdle for Australian media control

By Francis Daniel
Reuter

SYDNEY — Media magnate Rupert Murdoch on Feb. 9 cleared the last hurdle for taking over Australia's largest newspaper group when he sold two major television stations in Melbourne and Sydney.

Market analysts said the effective price of HWT, after the sales and costs associated with the takeover, would be 1.5 billion dollars (one billion U.S. dollar).

They said Murdoch was ex-pected to end up with substantial funds to reduce borrowings or to expand his newly-acquired Australian media empire.

Murdoch has more than a com-mercial interest in HWT. His father, Sir Keith Murdoch, headed the company until his death in 1952.

Murdoch told reporters that despite his sentimental attachment, his decision to takeover HWT was a hard-headed deal.

He travelled at least twice to Australia from New York to lead the see-saw battle against his arch-rivals, including multimillionaire Robert Holmes A Court.

HWT chairman John Dahlman told reporters: "This was a very complex takeover because of the structure of our companies, which created acute legal problems from time to time, the impact of the trade practices act and broadcasting and television act and the public concern about newspapers."

"It was more than a battle for control. It gets down to pretty raw attitudes and aspirations, and that makes it more interesting when it happens," he said.

Murdoch's bid was strongly resisted by the Australian Journalists Association (AJA), which claimed that it would place a great concentration of media power on one individual.

The AJA was supported by some community organisations and leading government and opposition politicians but Prime Minister Bob Hawke kept out of the battle.

group earlier agreed to pay 320 million dollars (214 million U.S.) for HWT's other major broad-casting interests as well as dropping its rival bid for HWT and all legal action against Murdoch's takeover bid.

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Women rule in Spanish village — once a year

By Leslie Crawford
Reuter

ZAMARRAMALA, Spain — Kitchen sinks and nappies appear to be a woman's lot in macho Spain, though in the tiny hamlet of Zamarramala, women can be seen swigging wine and burning male effigies — but only once a year.

In a tradition dating back to the 13th century, the men of this hillside village overlooking Segovia solemnly hand over power to the married women of Zamarramala.

"For two days, we rule," an elderly woman said.

"I tremble like custard as their fiesta approaches," her husband replied, tongue-in-cheek.

During two days in February, the women elect two mayresses give orders to the priest and constable and dance in the village square. Men are chased with large cushion pins, called *matamoras* (men killers).

"Feminist cuts little ice here," one of this year's mayresses, Maria Ester Pablos, said. "The fiesta is a token show of gratitude for the work we do the remaining 363 days of the year."

Her traditional mayress' attire — a long, full skirt, a tight, embroidered corset and a lace veil topped by a sequinned hat — did not suggest women's liberation.

But, feminists or not, the

women are out to have a good time, bobbing and weaving through the narrow village streets to traditional music, knocking back carafes of wine in bars and eating spiced sausages.

Busloads of women from Madrid, 90 kilometres to the south, pour into Zamarramala to join the fun.

The celebration begins on the feast day of a third-century martyr and patron of married women, Saint Agueda, whose breasts were cut off by her executioners.

Women carry a statue of Saint Agueda in a lively procession to the village church watched by their men, many of whom wear aprons to mark the occasion.

They then burn a life-size male effigy in the village square amid boos of laughter and much applause.

At this year's festival last weekend the dummy was dubbed Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, chastised for not including any women in his cabinet.

"The women of Zamarramala could teach him a thing or two," one woman said.

But do the women get a real break? Do the husbands do the cooking, for instance?

"You must be joking," a reveler said. "I leave everything done beforehand. My husband couldn't fry an egg to save his life."

Scientists hope satellite provides clues on puzzling northern lights

By Birgit Lofgren
The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — Researchers above the Arctic Circle say they hope Sweden's only satellite will teach them more about the northern lights, the heavenly phenomenon that has puzzled scientists for centuries.

The coloured lights, also known as aurora borealis, generally play within two oval-shaped belts above the North Pole.

The lights appear in a variety of shapes and colours. Like snowflakes, no two displays are ever quite the same. They can be calm or pulsate, colours glowing or fading.

Modern scientists explain the aurora as an interaction between the electromagnetic material around the sun and the earth's magnetic field.

"But the physical mechanism involved are not fully under-

stood, and here's where the Viking Project comes," said Ingrid Sandahl, a scientist at the Kiruna Geophysical Institute in Swedish Lapland.

Kerstin Fredga, scientific leader of the Viking Project, said the satellite photographs the northern lights in daylight, which was impossible before. It takes pictures from above at 20-second intervals.

Researchers monitor the satellite from the institute in Lapland, far from the light and air pollution that usually make the northern lights invisible to city dwellers further south.

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Modern scientists explain the aurora as an interaction between the electromagnetic material around the sun and the earth's magnetic field.

"The aurora is described in old tales as being accompanied by various sounds — crackling, rustling or buzzing. But scientists say that is unlikely.

But a year later, the satellite continues working and might do so for another couple of months, Ms. Fredga said.

Viking operates on a 106 million kronor (\$16.3 million) budget. Contributions for the project also come from the United States, Canada, France, West Germany, England, Denmark and Norway.

The northern lights have been a mystery for thousands of years. They are depicted in carvings believed to date back to the stone age, and the Greek philosopher Aristotle also noted them.

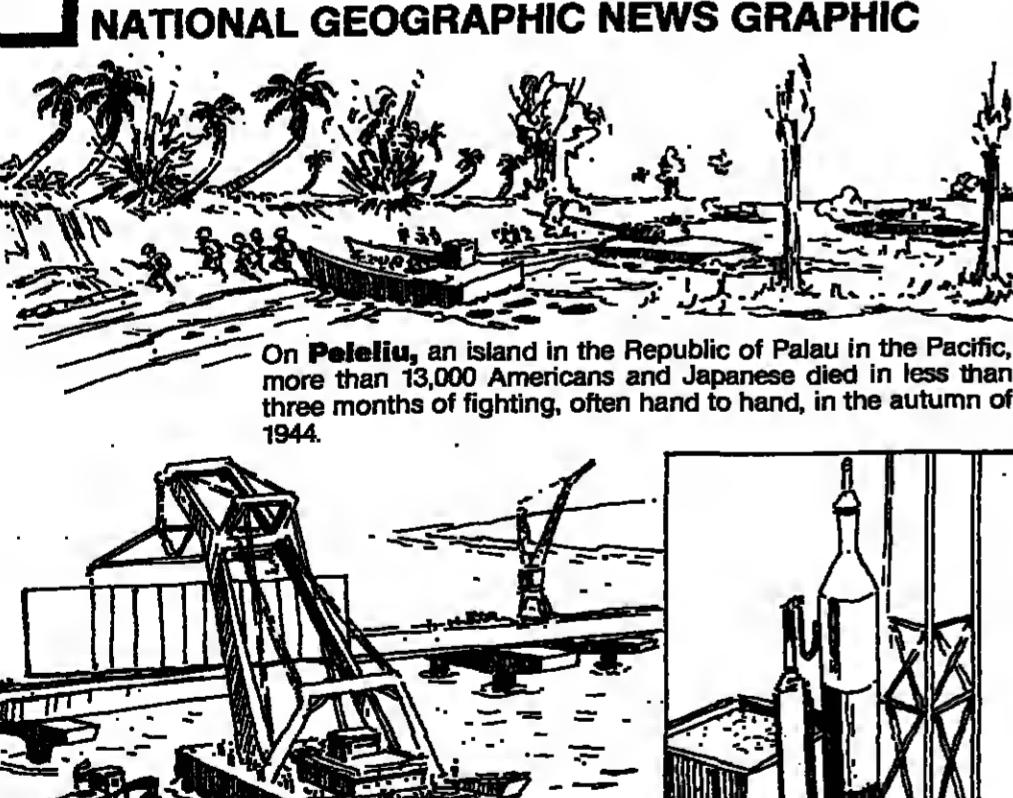
Primitive northern people believed the lights were the spirits of the dead either fighting or playing.

The aurora is described in old tales as being accompanied by various sounds — crackling, rustling or buzzing. But scientists say that is unlikely.

Her traditional mayress' attire — a long, full skirt, a tight, embroidered corset and a lace veil topped by a sequinned hat — did not suggest women's liberation.

But, feminists or not, the

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC NEWS GRAPHIC



On Peleliu, an island in the Republic of Palau in the Pacific, more than 13,000 Americans and Japanese died in less than three months of fighting, often hand to hand, in the autumn of 1944.

The world's most complex public works scheme is the Delta Project, built to protect the Netherlands from North Sea storms.

During the past two centuries, man's indiscriminate hunting and destruction of habitat have exterminated the North American wapiti (elk) throughout 90 percent of its former range.

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Everton draws at Oxford as Liverpool closes on top

LONDON (R) — Everton clung on to the top spot in the English First Division after scrambling a late equaliser at Oxford's Manor Ground where its title ambitions were snuffed out last season.

A goal in the final seconds by Paul Wilkinson earned Everton a 1-1 draw Saturday and kept it a point clear of long-time leader Arsenal, also held 1-1 at Sheffield Wednesday.

The leading pair will be looking anxiously over their shoulders at champion Liverpool, who moved to within three points of Everton with a thrilling 4-3 win over Leicester.

Welsh international Ian Rush scored a hat-trick for Liverpool to take his tally for the season to 30.

With Nottingham Forest sharing the spoils at home to West Ham, Liverpool were the only side among the top four to win Saturday.

Everton laid siege to the Oxford goal after John Trewick's twice-taken penalty had given the

home side the lead in the 25th minute.

Everton protested that Pat Van Den Hauwe was fouled as David Langan escaped on the right and it was adamant that there was no foul by Gary Stevens on David Llewellyn as they both went for — and missed — his cross.

Trewick drove the first penalty wide of goalkeeper Neville Southall's right hand but was ordered to retake it after referee John Martin spotted an infringement. Trewick repeated the shot for his first goal of the season.

Everton, beaten in the corresponding fixture last season — a match it had to deny neighbour Liverpool the title — had nothing to show for its pressure until Wilkinson popped up at the death to fire home from close range.

Mandlikova advances in California

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia, seeded first, and Zina Garrison of the United States, seeded third, will meet in the semifinals of the \$150,000 California women's tennis tournament.

Mandlikova beat fifth seeded Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria, 6-3, 7-6 (9-7) Friday night to reach the semifinals. Garrison defeated unseeded American Wendy White and will face Mandlikova for the 11th time in their careers. Mandlikova has an 8-3 winning edge.

In an earlier match, American Kathy Rinaldi, seeded second, advanced to the semi-finals with a 1-6, 6-4, 6-4 victory over fellow American Stephanie Rehe, seeded eighth.

Rinaldi will face unseeded West German Sylvia Hanika who defeated six seeded Wendy Turnbull of Australia, 6-4, 6-1.

Mandlikova's victory came despite an erratic first serve, which often deserted her. Only four of the first 15 games went on serve, but both players used solid ground strokes and their speed around the court to keep the

Canada's Johnson sprints to near record time

HAMILTON, Ontario (AP) — Toronto's Ben Johnson eased up to capture the 50-metre sprint and come within 10-hundredths of a second of his world record at the Hamilton Spectator Indoor Games.

Johnson said he took it easy over the last 10 metres because of a leg cramp as he coasted to a 5.65-second clocking.

But he was running hard after the race as youngsters in the crowd of 10,397 poured onto the infield to mob Canada's top track star.

"I was a little concerned I might get pushed and twist an ankle," Johnson said.

The race Friday night lost a bit of luster when Chidi Imoh, ranked second in the world, failed to appear. The Nigerian missed a flight in Chicago and along with it the chance to face Johnson.

The meet featured a number of familiar faces returning the winner's circle besides Johnson.

Charmaine Crooks became the first two-time winner in Hamilton when she captured the 500 metres by a stride over Esme Lawrence of Calgary, Alberta, in 1:13.56. Crooks, of Toronto, won the 600

metres in 1986.

Debbie Brill of Vancouver, British Columbia, was another repeater when she won the high jump with a leap of 6 feet, 1 1/4 inches.

Brill's victory was followed by Simon Hoogewerf's second consecutive win in the men's 1,000 metres. The British Columbia native covered that distance in 2:28.06.

A pair of winning distance runners in last year's meet just failed to defend their titles. Greater Britain's Kristy Wade passed Marica Puica of Romania in the final lap to capture the women's 1,500 metres in 4:15.70.

The men's 3,000 metres was closer as Graeme Fell of Vancouver came up just two-one hundredths of a second short, losing to Ritchie Harris of New York.

Kip Cherriot of Kenya defended his mile victory of a year ago with a relatively easy race in 4:03.19.

In the 50-metre hurdles, Mark McCoy of Toronto avenged the disappointment of a year ago, when he stumbled, as he topped the field with a time of 6.43 seconds.

And Angela Taylor-Issajenko of Mississauga, Ontario, again took the women's 50-metres with a time of 6.16 seconds.

Italy edges Portugal in Euro qualifier

LISBON, Portugal (AP) — A tough, running Italy triumphed Saturday over a less aggressive Portugal for a 1-0 win here in a Group 2 European Soccer Championship qualifying match.

The sole goal of the fast-moving encounter came at 40 minutes with a shot from the Italian's top scorer, Alessandro Altobelli of Inter Milan.

The result put the Italian national side closer to a finals berth in the 1988 finals, stretching its points lead in Group 2 to three, ahead of second-ranked Sweden.

The win was the fourth for Italy in four qualifying matches to date in the competition, following a 3-2 victory over Switzerland, and 5-0, 2-0 wins over Malta.

For Portugal, the home loss left a growing sense of doubt it would have a chance to repeat its impressive fourth-place showing at the last European Championship.

finals in 1984.

Saturday's loss was the team's first so far in qualifying rounds, but Portugal's two earlier outings in the competition also failed to produce a win. Visitor Sweden held the Portuguese squad to a 1-1 tally, the same result achieved in Bern, before Switzerland.

Following the match Saturday at National Stadium in suburban Val De Jamor, the Italians lead Group Two with 8 points, followed by Sweden's 5 points from two victories and a draw, while Portugal remains in third with its 2 points, ahead of Switzerland, with a single point, and Malta, with nil.

The match, a running contest from start to finish, saw repeated Portuguese attacks broken up by a solid Italian defence. Inter's Giuseppe Bergomi and Ricardo Ferri, along with Milan's Franco Baresi and Antonio Cabrini of

Inter Milan.

"I think we played well," a

clearly dejected Veloso said after the final whistle. "The result looks a bit unfair to a lot of us, we got to the ball more often."

Said teammate Nascimento, a midfielder from Porto: "Look, we charged them in the second half, hard, but they charged right back — and they defended well."

"Luck just wasn't there with us today," he concluded.

Pakistan reeling on 3rd day of test with India

CALCUTTA, India (AP) — Pakistan, losing five wickets in the space of 29 runs, was reeling at 215 for seven at close of play Saturday, the third day of the second cricket test with India.

The 10,000 spectators at Calcutta's Eden Gardens, bored by the dull play during much of the day, had an exciting time after tea when wickets fell in rapid succession.

The Indians earlier made 403 in their first innings.

Medium pacer Roger Binny,

turned the tide in India's favour after the second new ball was

claimed by skipper Kapil Dev.

Binny, taking four quick wickets, suddenly enlivened the proceed-

ings.

Dev, India's leading paceman, bowled Rizwan-Uz-Zaman lock-stock-and-barrel after Binny had got rid of star batsman Javed Miandad and Salim Malik. Zaman made 60.

Opener Rameez Raja earlier fell to a left-arm spinner Ravi Shastri. He prodded a turning ball and ballooned a simple bat-and-pad catch to forward short-leg.

Pakistani captain Imran Khan,

hit by a rising Dev delivery, did

not stay long at the wicket. He

edged Binny and Dev, at second

stump, took the catch.

At stumps, Salim Yousuf was

batting with 21 and Abdul Qadir

with two.

Then in the eighth round Bassa

dropped Zapata with a series of

combination punches.

Bassa opened a cut over the

28-year-old Zapata's left eye in the

third round with a solid right

hand, forcing Zapata to cover up.

Then in the eighth round Bassa

dropped Zapata with a series of

combination punches.

Boston defeats Portland

NEW YORK (AP) — The Boston Celtics are again looking like NBA champions, and it's Kevin McHale, not Larry Bird, who is sparking them.

"There's no question he's probably the best scorer in the league right now. He's just unstoppable down low," Bird said after McHale got 37 points and led Boston past the Portland Trail Blazers 131-116 Friday night.

The Celtics, tied with the Los Angeles Lakers for the best record in the NBA at 37-12, scored eight straight points in the third quarter to take control at 91-79.

Boston went on to increase its lead to 21 points.

The Celtics are now 3-0 on an eight-game road trip that has lasted four days so far.

Elsewhere, it was Chicago 106,

Seattle 98; Phoenix 105, Utah 98;

the Los Angeles Lakers 113, Indiana 108; the Los Angeles Clippers 110, San Antonio 96.

Bulls 106, Supersonics 98.

Michael Jordan, the NBA's

leading scorer, scored 45 points

and combined with Mike Brown to lead a 16-0 Chicago surge in the fourth quarter that led the

team to victory.

Seattle 105, Jazz 98.

Larry Nance scored 26 points

and Walter Davis added 17 as

Phoenix beat Utah. Ed Pinckney's two foul shots and a stuff

by Nance gave the host Suns the

lead for good at 80-77 entering

the fourth quarter. The Jazz got

to within 97-96 with 1:57 left in

the game, but Davis made two

foul shots with 1:17 remaining

and Nance hit a jump shot with 41

seconds to go.

Salonen takes lead in Swedish rally

KARLSTAD, Sweden (R) — Former world champion Timo Salonen of Finland and his four-wheel drive turbocharged Mazda 323 surged into the lead at the Swedish Motor Rally Saturday.

Salonen, who began the day in third place behind leader Mikael Eriksson in a Lancia, won three successive stages before the mid-morning break to overtake the Swede and claim a lead of 1:17 seconds with the final seven stages remaining.

After winning the 15th and 16th stages to edge close to the lead, Salonen won the 30-kilometre, 17th stage and beat Eriksson by 37 seconds in the process to seize the advantage.

Salonen, the 1985 world champion, had a total time of three hours and 24 seconds over 19 stages. Eriksson was second and Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden was third in another Mazda 25 seconds behind the Finn.

Sweden's former world champion Stig Blomqvist, fourth overnight, dropped to sixth place.

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Last November, we were

coming back from training and

Nina was driving. We had an

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Reuters posts big gains

LONDON (AP) — Reuters Holdings Plc said Thursday its after-tax profit soared 47 per cent because of a big jump in new orders, favourable foreign exchange rates and a lower tax rate.

The international news agency and financial information company said its after-tax profit for the 12 months ended Dec. 31 came to £80.7 million (\$119.4 million) compared with £54.9 million (\$81.3 million) in the same period a year earlier.

Per-share profit came to 19.4 pence (28.7 cents), compared with 13.2 pence (19.5 U.S. cents) a year earlier.

Pre-tax profit increased 39 per cent to £130.1 million (\$192.5 million) from £93.6 million (\$138.6 million), the company said.

Twelve-month revenue increased 43 per cent to £620.9 million (\$918.9 million) vs. £434.1 million (\$642.4 million).

Mr. Glen Renfrew, Reuters' managing director and chief executive, said the company's growth was spurred by sharply higher new orders and helped in the second half of the year by exchange rate movements.

The company also said its average tax rate fell to 38 per cent from 41.3 per cent.

Reuters speeded up development of new products and brought forward a timetable for expanding field service and sales in North America, Mr. Renfrew said.

Europe produced over half of the company's revenue growth,

he added.

Revenue in North America rose 60 per cent to \$190.1 million, the company said.

Asia also performed very well, led by Japan, Mr. Renfrew said.

However, depressed oil prices, war and unrest continued to plague Reuters' Middle East operations, he said.

The company spent £72.5 million (\$107.3 million) in cash and Reuters shares on acquisitions in 1986, which included the acquisition of 49 per cent of Instinct Corp. in cash. Reuters plans to swap its stock for the remaining 51 per cent of Instinct shares in May.

Instinct, an American company, has developed an electronic share dealing system.

Mr. Renfrew also announced that Reuters plans to launch a new global stock quotes service called Equities 2,000 in the spring.

The service will provide prices on 100,000 equities, futures and commodities, Mr. Renfrew said.

The company said it derived 56 per cent of its revenue from the sale of money market and foreign exchange information, 12 per cent from securities information, and 10 per cent from commodities information. It got nine per cent of its revenue from media services and 13 per cent from client systems, such as software and hardware for dealing rooms.

The company converted its revenue to dollars at a rate of \$1.48 per pound, which was the rate at noon on Dec. 31.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Feb. 7, '87 and ending Wednesday, Feb. 11, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars.)

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	—	47396	2.120	2.250	1.000
Petra Bank	20600	4948	2.110	2.070	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	2383	21394	1.670	1.660	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	12938	4521	1.250	1.270	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	3600	5903	1.520	1.530	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	3858	—	—	—	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	940	28184	28.000	30.250	5.000
Bank of Jordan	24505	41413	16.300	17.800	5.000
Arab Bank	1060	133365	127.000	125.750	10.000
Jordan National Bank	2345	57266	2.450	2.470	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	26082	17716	0.690	0.670	1.000
Islamic Investment House	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	14226	13127	1.420	1.430	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	49173	11205	0.730	0.730	1.000
National Financial Investments	7460	10632	1.380	1.380	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	3077	1823	0.600	0.590	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	3864	3593	0.920	0.930	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2.000
Al Miskineh Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	7105	22008	2.930	3.500	1.000
REPCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	653	7183	11.000	11.000	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	2950	2478	0.920	0.840	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	6409	6561	1.000	1.070	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	6300	6426	1.020	1.020	1.000
Arabian Seas Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	2300	2908	1.260	1.280	1.000
Petra Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	19200	15064	0.790	0.790	1.000
Universal Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Al-Lithan Insurance	600	570	0.950	0.950	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	4615	6599	1.500	1.430	1.000
Services and industries					
Darco for Housing and Investment	51666	33035	0.630	0.640	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	5500	2710	0.450	0.500	1.000
Management and Consultancy	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Investment	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	636	422	0.650	0.670	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	7200	1224	0.670	0.670	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tsjeecto	30785	13906	0.950	0.960	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	22310	33839	1.460	1.460	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab International Hotels	42300	17343	0.410	0.410	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	300	1275	4.500	4.250	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	7450	6556	0.870	0.880	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	55801	19210	0.330	0.370	1.000
Jordan Dairy	42422	50537	1.150	1.210	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	15961	33662	2.080	2.120	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	388890	328966	0.820	0.840	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	9532	22783	2.400	2.390	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Inta)	3284	4615	1.400	1.410	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	1200	5474	4.580	4.550	1.000
Aladdin Industries	59895	56459	0.920	0.950	1.000
Arab Aluminum Manufacturing	353705	529181	1.450	1.510	1.000
Jordan Worsted Mills	9180	8900	0.950	0.980	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	19100	19353	1.020	1.040	1.000
Chemical Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	2050	955	0.440	0.470	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	2992	4059	1.350	1.360	1.000
National Steel Industries	9937	193538	1.930	1.960	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	7900	6597	0.780	0.860	1.000
General Mining	800	1345	1.700	1.650	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	13483	91596	6.770	6.800	5.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	50014	11173	0.210	0.240	1.000
National Industries	1080	727	0.650	0.670	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading (WICO)	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	350	252	0.720	0.720	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	21260	25747	1.210	1.200	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Rafiq Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	19000	7960	0.400	0.420	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Woolen Industries	50	81	1.620	1.620	1.000
Jordan Tanning	331	861	2.600	2.600	1.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	5.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarettes	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Brewery	—	—	—	—	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	113446	112063	1.040	0.950	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	3050	1739	0.570	0.570	1.000
Jordan Industrial Investment Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	441538	730038	1.960	1.980	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	660299	750815	0.920	1.200	1.000
Grand total	2,812,856	3,969,977	—	—	—

Gemayel asks EC to lead Lebanon reconstruction plan

Lira continues to decline sharply

BRUSSELS, Belgium (Agencies) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel called on the 12 European Community (EC) nations Friday to take the lead in a "global reconstruction" of his war-torn country.

Currency Units has been pledged but arrangements for distribution of the aid have not been settled.

The EC official said President Gemayel was told his request for immediate pharmaceutical and medical assistance would be considered but that any "global" plan for the reconstruction of Lebanon would have to come from the European Union.

It's no longer the infrastructure, the streets and buildings, that people want to destroy in Lebanon," he said. "It's much more serious. It's man himself... in his spiritual and universal dimension that is in danger."

China promises political reforms but reaffirms stand against capitalism

PEKING (R) — China on Saturday promised to reform its political structure and continue with economic reforms, but warned a return to capitalism would only bring back feudalism.

The Communist Party's "Red Flag" journal, quoted by the official New China News Agency, said China must stick to socialism although it was still imperfect.

The journal also attacked three top intellectuals expelled from the party this year during a campaign against pro-Western ideas. It said the three negated China's achievements and claimed socialism was a failure in the country.

"To adhere to the socialist road, it is imperative to continue the policies of opening to the rest of the world and reform. China even plans to open wider to the outside world and reform of the urban economic structure will also be resolutely carried out," the journal said.

"The reform of political structure now under investigation and study will also be carried out," it added, but gave no details.

Acting party chief Zhao Ziyang has said procedures for county elections, the lowest level in the political hierarchy, will be improved.

Mr. Zhao succeeded Hu Yaohang, who was sacked last

month for "political errors" linked to nationwide protests in December by students calling for more democracy and freedom.

The sacking of Mr. Hu and the three intellectuals was part of a current campaign against "bourgeois liberalism" which officials blamed for the student unrest.

The journal said socialism faced a protracted and complicated struggle when it was introduced in China but the system could be gradually perfected by reforming various systems and raising the quality of people.

It said the party's central committee was conducting various reforms "which will show the superiority of socialism and narrow the gap between China and developed countries."

Quoting figures of higher agricultural output and increased production of raw materials and industrial products, it said China's growth rate cannot be called slow even when compared with developed capitalist countries.

"Capitalism does not work in

China," it stressed. "Current domestic and international conditions also prevent China from becoming an independent capitalist country. If China should choose to follow capitalism, it would return to the semi-feudal, semi-colonial society."

China would continue to learn advanced science and technology as well as culture from developed countries, "but this does not mean all decadent bourgeois ideology and dispirited things should be imported nor should China learn from all Western things," it added.

Chinese political leaders and the official media have stressed that the drive against pro-Western ideas will not affect economic reforms or be carried to the extreme.

Peng Zhen, chairman of the National People's Congress, told a visiting Panamanian delegation that recent changes in the party's leadership were "normal" and would result in better political and economic reforms in China.

"If there are any changes, they will result in further opening the country and reforming its economic and political systems," Mr. Peng said in apparent reference to Hu Yaohang.

"Capitalism does not work in

Disastrous weather claims 80 lives in Soviet Georgia

MOSCOW (AP) — Avalanches, landslides and flooding in the mountains of Georgia have claimed more than 80 lives this winter and destroyed 2,700 homes, the Communist Party daily Pravda reported Saturday.

Pravda gave few details on the disastrous weather, but previous reports have said that the heaviest snowfalls in 50 years hit the Caucasian mountains last month, cutting off many towns and villages from the outside world.

Thousands of people were stranded in their isolated homes for weeks, press reports said.

Assessing the damage and casualty toll, Pravda said the bad

weather was blamed for more than 80 deaths and that the avalanches and flooding "wiped 2,700 houses and 650 hospitals, clinics, schools and kindergartens off the face of the earth."

More than 197,000 acres of cultivated land were also destroyed, the paper said.

Pravda praised the bravery of people who worked in rescue efforts, especially Soviet soldiers. One young soldier, Rakhim Mamedov, "saved Georgian women, children and his comrades at the cost of his own life," the paper said without giving any details on how Mamedov was killed.

Seoul rejects Pyongyang's bid

SEOUL (AP) — In a letter on Saturday, South Korea called on North Korea to open suspended talks and rejected the North's bid for a new high-level political and military meeting, officials said.

The letter, signed by South Korean Prime Minister Lho Shin-Yong and Defense Minister Lee Ki-Baek, was in reply to a Jan. 30 letter from North Korean Premier Li Gun Mo and People's Armed Forces Minister O Jin U.

In the South Korean letter, released to reporters here, Mr. Lho and Mr. Lee renewed Seoul's previous request that Pyongyang unconditionally resume the suspended Red Cross, economic and parliamentary talks between the two countries and

that the North also agree to a summit meeting proposed by South Korean President Chu Doo-Hwan. Such dialogue is aimed at an eventual unification of the two Koreas, split since the end of World War II in 1945.

The two North Korean officials in their joint letter proposed that high-level political and military leaders held first, and that if they were successful, then resumption of the suspended talks and the proposed summit meeting could take place.

Pyongyang broke off the three existing channels of dialogue in early 1985 to protest an annual U.S.-South Korea joint military exercise called "Team Spirit."

Salvador rebels launch new attack

SAN SALVADOR (R) — The armed forces said Friday eight soldiers and 10 rebels were killed in a seven-hour battle in eastern El Salvador but rebel radio put the number of dead at 25.

An armed forces statement said 12 soldiers and three civilians had also been wounded in fighting around the town of Delicias de Concepcion.

Rebel Radio Venceremos said leftist guerrillas had killed 25 soldiers and wounded 24.

It was the second major rebel attack in two months in the area and military sources said it produced the fiercest fighting of the year.

Troops combed at least five provinces in a new drive against the guerrillas, they said.

Colonel Mauricio Vargas, commander of Morazan province where the fighting took place, told Reuters rebels mortared the town from three sides shortly before midnight and exchanged fire with troops until dawn.

In a telex sent to news agencies Friday, the rebels claimed they killed 25 government soldiers and wounded 24. They also claimed they shot down a helicopter and destroyed a tank during the fighting.

The rebels, who have been fighting the U.S.-backed army for more than seven years, declared a new offensive Jan. 5. Since early December they have staged a host of raids, mostly on small military outposts.

He has said that the ouster of the Sandinista "clique" could lead to the establishment of an equally undemocratic government.

This is a devastating blow to the klan and demonstrates to all hate groups that they will be held responsible for the consequences of their preachings and acts of violence," said Mark Alfonso, a spokesman for the Atlanta-based Centre for Democratic Renewal, which monitors Ku Klux Klan activities.

An all-white federal jury in Mobile, Alabama, on Thursday ordered the United Klans of America, the largest of several rival klan organisations, and six members to pay damages for the 1981 slaying of 19-year-old

Michael Donald.

Two of the members were convicted of the killing in 1983.

Stuart Lewengrub, south east regional director of the Anti-Defamation League, said the jury award threatened the financial survival of the United Klans.

He said the 2,500-member organisation faced the possible seizure of its \$125,000 headquarters in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, as partial payment of the award.

"Except for that, the United Klans don't have more than a few pennies to their name," Lewengrub said. "They could be financially ruined."

He said most United Klans members are poor, uneducated whites from rural Alabama and Georgia who can barely afford to

pay the group's \$10-a-month fee.

Morris Dees, lawyer for the victim's family and an anti-klan crusader, said in court Donald's murder was part of a pattern of racial intimidation and attacks inspired by top leaders of the United Klans.

Earl Shinnister, south east regional director of the National Association for Advancement of Coloured People, said he hoped the verdict would force the klan and other hate groups to tone down their rhetoric and refrain from violence.

"The racist leaders have to realise that they are now at risk," he said.

The court judgment came amid increased publicity for the klan, which launched a campaign of

what do you bid now?"

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K72 ♦K83 ♦732 ♦K833

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass

What action do you take?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K83 ♦AK10953 ♦AKJ82

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♦ Pass 4 ♦ Pass

What action do you take?

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦K5782 ♦A ♦CAJ93 ♦K102

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ NT Pass

What do you bid now?

What do you bid now?

Influential Indian journalist mediating in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (R) — Six people were killed in Sri Lanka as an influential Indian journalist was due to begin mediating between the government and Tamil rebels for an end to the island's four-year-old ethnic conflict, government and authoritative sources said Saturday.

The move occurred as security forces consolidated positions in their eight-day drive against the rebels.

A government spokesman told Reuters troops cleared a 56 kilometre road to Pullumduai from Trincomalee which was previously controlled by rebels.

"The headquarters of the main rebel group was destroyed and two other smaller hideouts smashed by troops," he said.

He said many rebel strongholds of the Liberation Tigers Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the main guerrilla group, were destroyed in both the north and the east and troops seized large stocks of arms and ammunition.

More than 5,000 people have died since communal violence flared in July 1983.

The sources said Sri Lankan leaders had accepted Ram's efforts to mediate.

2 students killed and 50 hurt in Bangladesh blasts

DHAKA (R) — At least 50 students were killed and 50 injured on Saturday when five petrol bombs exploded during a demonstration by Muslim fundamentalist students in the southern port city of Chittagong, police said.

They said the bombs were tossed by unidentified activists as hundreds of students from the Islamic Chhatra Shibir group were marching through city streets.

The explosion coincided with clashes outside the presidential palace in the capital, Dhaka, between police and about 500 student demonstrators.

The demonstrators were commemorating three colleagues killed by police gunfire in 1983 during protests against government education policy.

Police said three firecracker-type devices bombs were thrown by unidentified people at Saturday's Dhaka protest but there were no injuries.

The Chittagong demonstration followed a six-hour city-wide strike called by the Shibir, the student wing of the fundamentalist Jamaat-E-Islami Party, in protest

against the government's policies.

"This is time we must work unitedly to unseat the hated dictator," she said.

COLUMN

Tutu: Christ will be detained in S. Africa

CAPE TOWN (R) — Anti-apartheid leader Desmond Tutu said Friday Jesus Christ would be in trouble if he came to South Africa now — and would almost certainly be detained.

The major opposition party, the African National Congress, prepared for an anti-government rally to muster support for a proposed half-day nationwide strike next Monday.

Key opposition figure Begum Khaleda Zia, leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, called for a united movement to end the rule of President Hossain Mohammad Ershad and restore people's democracy.

She told a rally at Chittagong on Friday that Lieutenant-General Ershad had "pushed Bangladesh to the brink of economic collapse, ruined political systems and scuttled efforts to restore flawless democracy."

"It is time we must work unitedly to unseat the hated dictator," she said.

Experts discount 'Star of America'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The "Star of America" sapphire, touted by its discoverer as worth \$2.28 million, is actually an insignificant stone worth less than one-twentieth that amount, experts say. "I don't think the word million can enter into the conversation," said Elias Rosen, an independent appraiser who has been a gem consultant to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, the government's tax collection agency.

"To scale down criticism means to stop the advance and to harm reorganisation, and this will never happen," he said.

At the same time, he called on the workers in the mass media to demonstrate responsibility.

"No one has the right to the truth in the last instance," Mr. Gorbachev said. People in the media who criticise government officials and others must develop relations that "become those of partners and rely on common interest."

"What is needed here is dialogue, while high-handed lectures and posturing, let alone the prosecutor's tone, are totally unacceptable," the Soviet leader said.

American allies are uneasy over U.S. President Ronald Reagan's SDI plan because, some fear, it would leave them outside the U.S. nuclear "umbrella" and possibly diminish the U.S. commitment to their defence. At the same time, however, their high-tech companies could profit financially and technologically from participation in SDI research.

Mr. Gorbachev noted that Japan agreed to join in SDI research on condition that the system be developed in conformity with the 1972 U.S.-Soviet treaty restricting such anti-missile shields.

Like Japan, U.S. allies in Western Europe also have expressed concern about such early deployment of an SDI system.

The Japanese last year agreed to allow their high-technology companies to take part in U.S. research on SDI, which is envisioned as a complex defence system involving lasers, particle-beam weapons and high-speed command computers.

Such consultations would focus on, among other things, whether strategic defences would be a "destabilising factor" on the international scene, said Hiromoto Seki, director-general for international affairs at the Japanese Defence Agency.

Mr. Gorbachev did not mention individuals, but his remarks could be taken to include men such as Nikolai Bucharin, Lev Kamenev and Grigory Zinoviev who played leading roles in the revolution and were later executed under Stalin's dictatorship. His speech was published by TASS news agency.

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Events in Moscow this week also indicated limitations on the power of openness. For five straight days ending Friday, protesters gathered at the Arbat shopping mall to call for free emigration and the release of imprisoned activist Josef Begun.

His remarks could also be taken to refer to the millions of ordinary people executed or sent to labour camps during Stalin's rule, and millions more who died in a famine provoked by the collectivisation of farms in the early 1930s.

During the final three days, the demonstrators were beaten and dragged away by plainclothes security agents. Soviet Television and the daily press did not report the incidents.

"We wanted to confirm where we stand," the spokesman said of the ambassador's visit to the State Department. He said Mr. Matsunaga was told no policy decision had yet been made in Washington.

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